

active in Lee County at the time. After being searched for weapons and a camera, Horner was allowed to enter the area where the Klan was preparing for a cross burning. He furiously scribbled notes about what he saw, and when it was all over with, he headed back to his car. "I got stopped by one of the Klan's security guards on the way out," he'd later say. "They searched me again and found my notebook. They wanted to see what I had written, so I showed it to them—but I handed them my notebook upside down. One of the guards looked at it for awhile—nobody could read my handwriting except me—and gave it back and said, 'OK, you can go.' I came back and wrote the story."

Horner gradually assumed a greater role in the management of the newspaper, especially upon W.E. Horner's "retirement" in 1966 at the age of 65. The elder Horner never really left the business, keeping an office and writing the "Good Afternoon" column nearly every day until the mid-1980s. But he did leave the major decisions about the business to his successor. The son eventually succeeded the father as publisher in 1991 and retired on April 1, 1998, when the newspaper was sold to Paxton Media Group, a family-owned company based in Paducah, Ky.

"Bill was very kind and supportive to me over the years, and I always considered him more of a friend than as my boss," said R.V. Hight, who began work at The Herald in 1979 as sports editor and now serves as special projects editor. "I shall forever be indebted to Bill for hiring me and for the encouragement he gave me over the years. He loved this newspaper and was a strong leader as both general manager and publisher."

"I am grateful to have known Bill and I shall miss him."

Robert Stone worked at The Herald for 44 years, retiring in 1996.

"He understood that a local newspaper is all about local news," Stone said of Horner. "And I think, really and truly, he understood better than the employees were the important part of the organization."

Charlie Welborn, a partner with the accounting firm of Davenport, Marvin, Joyce & Co., was a best friend of Bill Horner III and eventually became the newspaper's accountant—and a close friend of Bill Jr.'s as well.

"Bill was a very successful businessman who carried on the tradition of The Herald that was founded by his father," Welborn said. "I enjoyed the business relationship that we had, but more importantly he was a very good friend. I visited him often at the beach and he was always interested in the news from Sanford/Lee County. He would reminisce about his career, family and friends. I will miss him greatly and feel that I am a better person for having known him."

A former member of the Kiwanis Club of Sanford and the Rotary Club of Sanford, Horner was a lifelong member of the General Alumni Association of UNC and was also active on the boards of directors of several local organizations, including Southern National (and later BB&T) Bank.

He served a term as a director for the North Carolina Press Association—an organization for which both his father (in 1939) and son (in 2002) both served as president—and was a member of St. Luke United Methodist Church.

Horner moved to Sunset Beach a few months after his retirement and became active as a member of the board of directors of the Providence Home Family Emergency Teen Shelter in Southport, and played a key role in the organization's fund-raising efforts.

He enjoyed sailing and for many years held a private pilot's license and built and flew his own remote-control airplanes. He was an experienced gardener and ham radio oper-

ator, and once talked to explorer and adventurer Thor Heyerdahl during one of Heyerdahl's ocean-crossing raft trips, as well as to King and Queen Hussein of Jordan. He enjoyed reading and classical music and was a keen observer of current events and world politics.

In lieu of flowers, the family has requested friends consider making donations or memorials to the Lower Cape Fear Hospice & LifeCareCenter, 10 Doctors Circle, Suite 4, Supply, N.C., 28432, or to the charity of their choice.

Arrangements are by Brunswick Funeral Services in Shallotte and Rogers-Pickard Funeral Home. The family will receive friends following the memorial service at the home of Bill Horner III.

[From the Dunn Daily Record]

STATE LOSES RESPECTED NEWSMAN

Please allow us to note the passing of a friend and colleague in North Carolina's newspaper community. Bill Horner Jr., former publisher of The Sanford Herald in neighboring Lee County, died Thursday after a three-year battle with cancer.

At just 67, Mr. Horner died in Sunset Beach, where he had moved after his retirement seven years ago.

Having grown up in a newspaper family, Mr. Horner stayed close to the business during his college years, working one summer as a reporter for The Raleigh Times, the now-defunct sister newspaper of The News & Observer, and another selling subscriptions door-to-door in rural Kentucky for The (Louisville) Courier-Journal.

After graduating from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1959, Mr. Horner—who was part of the Reserve Officer Training Corps during his college years—was commissioned as an ensign and called up for a two-year hitch with the Navy. He spent most of that time aboard the aircraft carrier U.S.S. Forrestal as chief disbursement officer on the ship's supply officer staff.

After his military service, he returned to The Herald at the behest of his father, Herald founder W.E. Horner, who told his son he would start as a printer's devil.

He worked in the newspaper's print shop and then moved on to other parts of the newspaper, including the newsroom. He gradually assumed a greater role in the management of the newspaper, taking over major decisions about the business upon his father's semi-retirement in 1966 at the age of 65.

Having worked in every department of the paper, Mr. Horner took over as publisher in 1991. He retired on April 1, 1998, when the newspaper was sold to Paxton Media Group, a family-owned company based in Paducah, Ky. His son, Bill Horner III, is the current publisher.

Bill Horner Jr. was a respected newspaper man who built on the success of his father. Under Bill Horner Jr., the newspaper made strides in technology and in its community service, consistently winning awards from the North Carolina Press Association.

"Bill was very kind and supportive to me over the years, and I always considered him more of a friend than as my boss," said R.V. Hight, who began work at The Herald in 1979 as sports editor and now serves as special projects editor. "He loved this newspaper and was a strong leader as both general manager and publisher. I am grateful to have known Bill and I shall miss him."

Another longtime Herald staffer, Robert Stone, worked at the newspaper for 44 years, retiring in 1996.

"He understood that a local newspaper is all about local news," Mr. Stone said. "And I think, really and truly, he understood bet-

ter that the employees were the important part of the organization."

With his passing, the Sanford community—and that state's newspaper community—has lost a dear and respected friend.

CONGRESSMAN KILDEE RECOGNIZES AMERICAN RED CROSS EVERYDAY HEROES

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 11, 2005

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I stand before you today on behalf of one of our country's most honored and respected organizations, the American Red Cross. Each year, the Genesee-Lapeer Chapter of the Red Cross acknowledges individuals who have shown tremendous courage, kindness, and selflessness through acts of goodwill and heroism. Twenty-five such people will be honored May 13, at the 2005 Salute to Everyday Heroes.

Everyday Heroes are chosen by the Red Cross from several categories: Fire, Law Enforcement, Emergency Medical Response, Community Good Samaritan, Youth Good Samaritan, Adult Good Samaritan, and Workplace Good Samaritan. Nominees are selected for acts of bravery related to fire, rescue, and lifesaving, and are awarded to those who live in Genesee or Lapeer Counties, or if the rescue occurred in one of the two counties.

Deputy Lawrence Fields is this year's Law Enforcement Everyday Hero, and Lieutenant John Speck is the Emergency Medical Response Hero.

Good Samaritan Awards will be given to: The Honorable Judge Duncan Beagle (Community), Robert Duffy (Workplace), Deputy Dave McDonald, Christopher Tanner, Jerry Scheddel, and Raymond Hile (Adult), and Matthew Harris (Youth).

Those receiving the Fire Everyday Hero Award include: Tony Windham, Chad McBride, Jim Bennett, Jasen Stevens, Firefighters Edward Reynolds, Jeffery George, Jeremy Gilbert, Michael Gist, Robert Parrish, Michael Rose, Tony Terry, and Robert Winford, Lieutenants Yaskuo Hall and Martin Juarez, and Captain Raymond Barton.

A special Spirit of Heroism award will be given posthumously to Ms. Cherica McLemore of Flint. Ms. McLemore's life was tragically cut short last January, as a car struck her after she stopped to help victims of another crash.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud these courageous men, and the life of this caring young woman, for all they have done for others. Through their actions, they gave a priceless gift—a second chance at life. Their contributions are deserving of the highest respect, and I ask my colleagues in the 109th Congress to please join me in recognizing them for who they truly are—heroes.

RECOGNIZING ROBERT "BOB" BURGER

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 11, 2005

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize longtime community resident Robert